



Electrical & GFCI Safety

Meets OSHA Construction Standards 29CFR 1926 Subpart K - Electrical



Temporary Lighting on Construction Sites

Temporary lighting is any electrical power and light wiring which is removed upon completion of construction or when permanent wiring has been completed.

- All lamps must be caged to protect the bulbs from accidental contact or breakage
- Never suspend temporary lights by their electrical cords
- Don't suspend portable lights in wet locations unless operated at 12 volts or less
- 120 volt lights can be used in wet locations but only if they are protected by a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI)
- Light fixtures must not have any live exposed parts (this prevents accidental employee contact)

Remember to replace all broken light bulbs immediately!

Extension Cords:

- Must always be protected from damage – sharp corners and projections should be avoided
- Cords may pass through doorways, but only if protection is provided to avoid damage
- Cords can not be used as a substitute for fixed wiring
- Heavy equipment and materials should be kept off of cords to prevent damage
- Cords should be inspected before using them at the beginning of every day, after any incident that may cause damage such as when a cord is run over by a forklift, Lull, JLG, etc., following any repairs
- Cords must be of the three wire type and must be designed for hard or extra hard usage (type S, ST, SO, STO and be of the 10, 12 or 14 gauge type.

Cord & Light Inspection:

- ✓ Are cords frayed or do they have any exposed wires?
- ✓ Is the insulation damaged?
- ✓ Are cords being run over by other objects?
- ✓ Are objects resting or sitting on the cord?
- ✓ Is the cord hung from nails, suspended by wire, fastened by staples, etc.?
- ✓ Is duct tape being used to repair cords?

If you can answer yes to any of these questions, tag and remove the cord from service

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI)

- **Has a sensing element that monitors current in both hot & neutral lines**
- **Automatically trips if it senses a difference of as little as 5milliamps**
- **Stops electrical flow within a fraction of a second**

Note: All 120 volt, 15 and 20 amp receptacle outlets on construction sites, which are not part of the permanent wiring of the building, must have approved Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters.

Keep in mind that 120 volt lights may be used in wet locations only if they are protected by a GFCI.

